

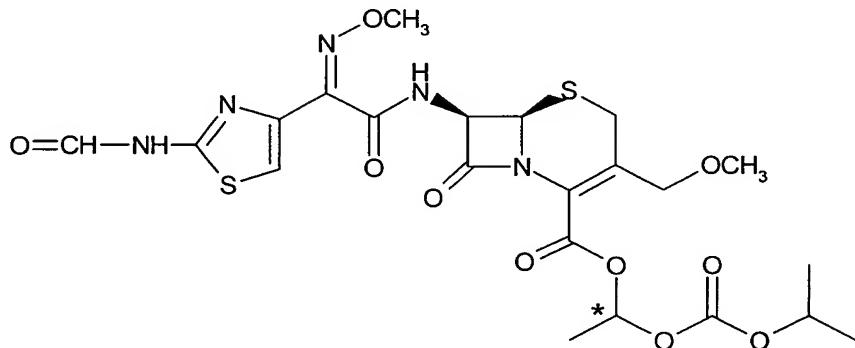
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (new): A compound of Formula I

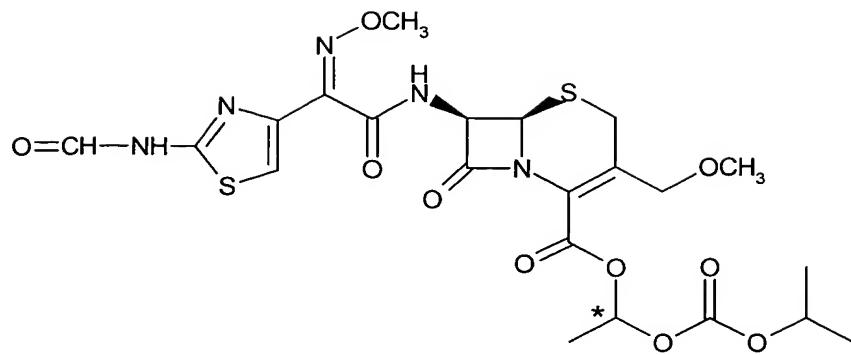


in crystalline form.

Claim 27 (new): A mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of Formula I according to Claim 26, wherein the diastereoisomeric ratio B/(A+B) is 0.4 to 0.7, wherein B is the more apolar of the two diastereoisomers, wherein the chiral center is marked with a (*).

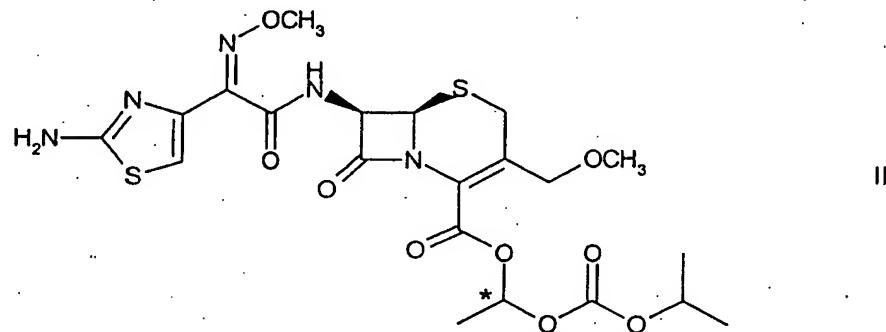
Claim 28 (new) The mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of Formula I according to Claim 27 wherein the ratio of B/(A+B) is 0.5 to 0.6.

Claim 29 (new): Crystalline 7-[2-(2-formylaminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(Z)-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-methoxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid-1-(isopropoxycarbonyloxy)ethyl ester of Formula I



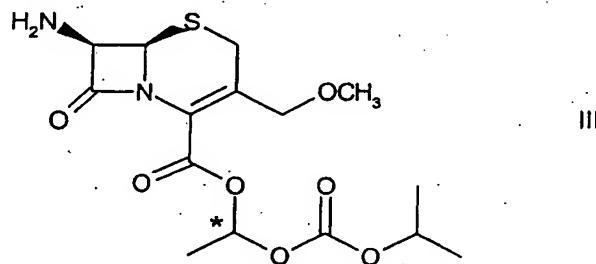
as a diastereoisomeric mixture, wherein the chiral center is marked with a (*).

Claim 30 (new) A process for preparing a mixture of diastereoisomers of cefpodoxime proxetil of Formula II

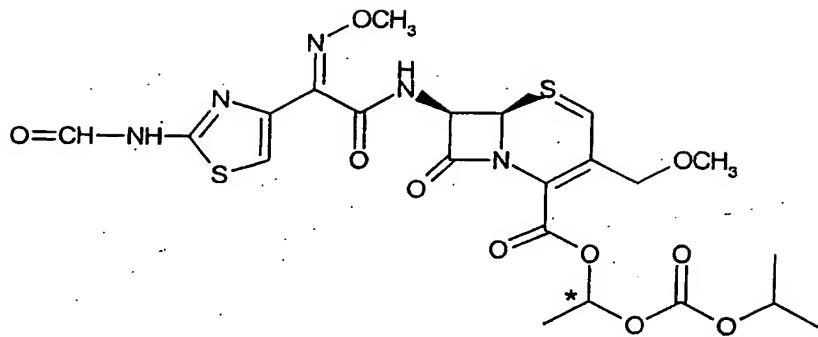


in a diastereoisomeric ratio B/(A+B) of 0.4 to 0.7, wherein B is the more apolar of the two diastereoisomers, wherein the chiral center is marked with a (*), said process comprising

- acylating a compound of Formula III



with Z-(2-formamidothiazol-4-yl)-methoxyimino acetic acid, to form a mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of Formula I



- (iii) dissolving the mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of Formula I in a solvent selected from the group consisting of a nitrile, a ketone, and mixtures thereof, to form a solution, wherein the amount of nitrile is 2-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of ketone is 3-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I;
- (iv) treating the solution with water to induce precipitation of the compound of Formula I in crystalline form, wherein the amount of water in the case of a nitrile solvent is 5-80 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of water in the case of a ketone solvent is 10-40 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I;
- (v) isolating the compound of Formula I in crystalline form; and
- (vi) hydrolyzing the compound of Formula I in crystalline form to form a diastereoisomeric mixture in a ratio of B/(A+B) of 0.4 to 0.7 of a compound of Formula II.

Claim 31 (new) The process according to Claim 30 wherein the diastereoisomeric mixture is in a ratio of B/(A+B) of 0.5 to 0.6.

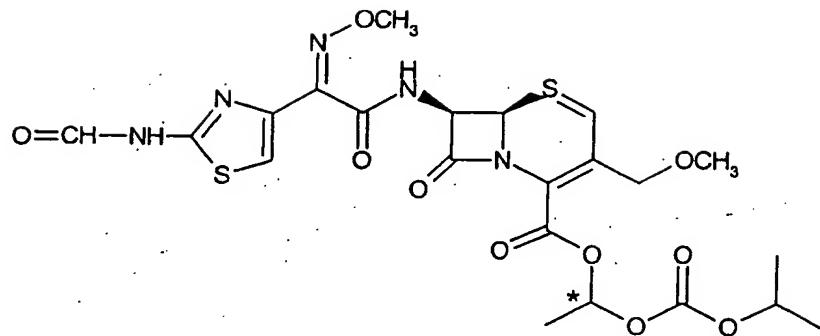
Claim 32 (new) The process according to Claim 30 wherein the nitrile is selected from the group consisting of acetonitrile, propionitrile, butyronitrile, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 33 (new) The process according to Claim 32 wherein the nitrile is acetonitrile.

Claim 34 (new) The process according to Claim 30 wherein the ketone is selected from the group consisting of acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 35 (new) The process according to Claim 34 wherein the ketone is acetone.

Claim 36 (new) A process for preparing a compound of Formula I in crystalline form



said process comprising:

- (a) dissolving a compound of Formula I in a solvent selected from the group consisting of a nitrile, a ketone, and mixtures thereof, to form a solution, wherein the amount of nitrile is 2-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of ketone is 3-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I;
- (b) treating the solution with water to induce precipitation of the compound of Formula I in crystalline form, wherein the amount of water in the case of a nitrile solvent is 5-80 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of water in the case of a ketone solvent is 10-40 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I; and
- (c) isolating the compound of Formula I in crystalline form.